



State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

PO BOX 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706
(406) 444-3064
FAX (406) 444-3036

61st Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

JOE TROPILA--Chair
JOE BALLYEAT
LARRY JENT
DAVE LEWIS

HOUSE MEMBERS

GORDON HENDRICK--Vice Chair
TIMOTHY FUREY
PAT INGRAHAM
ROBERT MEHLHOFF

COMMITTEE STAFF

RACHEL WEISS, Research Analyst
DAVID NISS, Staff Attorney
FONG HOM, Secretary

Tentative Draft Agenda

December 11, 2009

Room 137, State Capitol, 9:00 a.m.

Please note: All times are tentative. Some items may take more or less time than scheduled.

- 9:00 a.m. **Call to Order, Roll Call** -- Senator Joe Tropila, Presiding Officer
- 9:01 a.m. **Summary of Veterans' Day Roundtables in Great Falls**
→ Brigadier General Bradley A. Livingston, Montana Air National Guard
- 9:20 a.m. **Update on federal legislation affecting veterans:**
→ Family Caregiver Program Act (S.801) and Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act (S.658)
 - Bruce Knutson, State Veterans Liaison, U.S. Senator Jon Tester
→ Post-Deployment Health Assessment Act (H.R.2058/S.711)
 - Staff from U.S. Congressman Denny Rehberg's Office (*invited*)
 - Staff from U.S. Senator Max Baucus' Office (*invited*)
- 9:50 a.m. **Agency Oversight: Board of Veterans' Affairs updates**
→ Lt. Col. Joe Foster, Administrator, Board of Veterans' Affairs
- 10:05 a.m. **Public comment on military and veterans' affairs issues**
- 10:15 a.m. **Amend and adopt Principles and Guidelines for Public Employee Retirement Systems**
- 10:30 a.m. **HB659: Review of other public employee retirement systems administered by the Public Employees' Retirement Board**
→ Rachel Weiss, staff researcher
→ Time will be provided for questions from the Committee and public comment following a brief summary of each of the following retirement systems:
 - Firefighters' Unified Retirement System (FURS)
 - Game Wardens' and Peace Officers' Retirement System (GWPORS)
 - Highway Patrol Officers' Retirement System (HPORS)
 - Municipal Police Officers' Retirement System (MPORS)

- Sheriffs' Retirement System (SRS)
- Judges' Retirement System (JRS)
- Volunteer Firefighters' Compensation Act (VFCA)

- 11:30 a.m. **Committee discussion and, if desired, action on other retirement systems administered by the Public Employee's Retirement Board**
- Noon **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. ***Tentative: Optional Retirement Program (ORP) of the Montana University System***
 → Mick Robinson, Associate Commissioner for Administrative and Fiscal Affairs/Chief of Staff, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (*invited*)
- 1:20 p.m. ***HB659: Update on RFP process*** -- Rachel Weiss
 → Questions from the Committee
- 1:30 p.m. **Review of legal issues surrounding a modification of retirement contract provisions for current retirement system members and retirees**
 → David Niss, staff attorney
 → Questions from the Committee
 → Public comment
 • Melanie Symons, Legal Counsel, MPERA
 • Other members of the public
 → Committee discussion
- 2:00 p.m. **Public comment on any subject within SAVA's jurisdiction**
- 2:10 p.m. **Other business:**
 → Member issues, including any questions on agencies' written updates
 → Invitation to attend Montana Association of School Superintendents' spring conference: March 22-23, 2010
- 2:15 p.m. **Instructions to staff -- Adjourn**

The Montana Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public meeting. If you require an accommodation, please contact Rachel Weiss at 406-444-5367 or rweiss@mt.gov at least 5 working days before the meeting to discuss the nature of the accommodation you need.

CI0425 9328rwx.a.